IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COPY OF PAPERS ORIGINALLY FILED



In the application of

NAOKI ITO and MASAYOSHI IWAHARA

Serial No. 10/027,304

Filed December 20, 2001

DISINFECTANT FOR TEATS For

OF ANIMALS, AND A METHOD

FOR IMPROVING MICROORGANISM-

ENVIRONMENT HARMFUL

FOR ANIMALS

Group Art Unit 1744

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence was deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

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ecretary to Edward G. Greive

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

37 CFR §§ 1.97, 1.98

May 0 8 2002

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97 encouraging the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants hereby submit the following in compliance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 CFR §1.56.

Information or art known to the Applicants and having an extent of relevance to the present application has been listed on Form PTO-1449 attached hereto. It includes three EPO applications and one international (PCT) application. The Applicants have employed Form PTO-1449 for the purposes of convenience of the Office and the Examiner.

No representation is made that a specific search has been made, that the information is pertinent to the claimed subject matter, that the information is non-cumulative, or that the information represents the only or the best information. The Applicants do not admit that any of the information they have provided is necessarily prior to their invention but rather that it is information of which they are aware and that they believe should be provided to the Office in fulfillment of their duty of disclosure. Any question that may arise regarding priority of a specific reference shall be resolved during prosecution.

It is the position of the Applicants that none of the art provided herein accomplishes the objects of the present invention. The Applicants believe that the claims of the subject application are patentably distinct over the art of record. In the event the Examiner would care to discuss any of the foregoing more specifically, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward G. Greive, Reg. No. 24,726 Renner, Kenner, Greive, Bobak, Taylor & Weber Fourth Floor, First National Tower Akron, Ohio 44308-1456 Telephone: (330) 376-1242

Attorney for Applicants

April 25, 2002

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